



The Georgia Senate This Week

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As Crossover Day looms, Senate continues to work at non-stop pace

As the Senate prepares for Day 26 of the 2008 session, the last seven legislative days have brought on some of the most significant debates we've seen this year. Whether it's CON, Sunday Sales issues or our current northern borders with Tennessee and North Carolina, it's obvious that the session is in full swing. This week, Senate committees met well into the evening hours to move key legislation, such as *Senate Bill 458* by Senator **Eric Johnson** of the 1st, which could provide scholarships to students in failing schools, or *Senate Resolution 345* by Sen. **Bill Heath** of the 31st, which is most commonly referred to as the "Faith-based Amendment." Here is a look back at some of the major events of the past week.



On Wednesday, Senators **Jeff Mullis** of the 53rd and **David Shafer** of the 48th met with a Chattanooga, TN-based delegation to accept their gift of several cases of bottled water. The visit was a publicity stunt set forth by Chattanooga Mayor **Ron Littlefield** in response to *Senate Resolution 822*, which seeks to correct survey errors along Georgia's northern border with Tennessee and North Carolina. In what was deemed

"Give our Georgia Friends a Drink Day," Senators met with **Matt Lea**, an aide to Mayor **Littlefield**, who was dressed in a coonskin cap and garb representative of that worn by American pioneer Davy Crockett.

Senator **Mullis** responded by saying, "I truly appreciate the Chattanooga group delivering us some clean fresh water, which may have been bottled in Tennessee or Georgia – who knows."

On a more serious note, the Senate heard a passionate debate on *Senate Bill 433* this Wednesday. The bill paves the way for a destination cancer treatment center to come to Georgia. However, the measure has seen controversy along the way because it makes certain modifications to Georgia's Certificate of Need (CON) laws, which has brought opposition from many different arenas, including the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and groups representing Georgia hospitals.

"The government has made a mess out of the healthcare industry," exclaimed Senate Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th in his first presentation from the well on this issue. "People of Georgia should have a choice when making decisions about life and death matters."

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The debate on *SB 433* played out in the days leading up to its placement on the Senate rules calendar, with other Senators weighing in with their feelings on this sensitive issue.

“Free enterprise and laissez faire works, but there’s is a huge difference with hospitals. People go into hospitals all over this state, and if they don’t have money, they still get served,” said Sen. **Don Balfour** (R-Snellville). “Every state that does not have CON regulates how many doctors are there. It’s the same kind of regulation, just on a different hand.”

Senate Bill 433 passed the Senate in a very close 31 to 23 vote and now goes to the House for consideration.

Senate passes model Internet Safety law



Ground-breaking Internet safety legislation authored by Sen. **Cecil Staton** (R-Macon) has passed the Senate in unanimous fashion. The ultimate goal of *Senate Bill 474* is to protect children from Internet predators.

“Georgia has the opportunity to lead the way in Internet safety by passing the first comprehensive legislation of its kind in the country,” Sen. **Staton** said. “The Senate recognizes the significant difficulties in keeping the Internet safe for children, and I am pleased that they voted unanimously to pass this legislation.”

Under *SB 474*, registered sex offenders would be required to provide their e-mail addresses and user names to the state and their Internet use may be monitored or limited. The legislation seeks to further strengthen partnership with Internet service providers and law enforcement by granting the ability to obtain records involving a possible sexual offense against a child. Interactive computer services in Georgia also are directed to report information on potentially harmful online activity to the Cyber Tipline at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

In an effort to put more control in the hands of parents, *SB 474* also requires Internet access providers to offer subscribers in Georgia the ability to block their child’s access to specific Web sites and monitor their child’s use of the Internet. The Department of Education is directed to develop educational materials regarding online safety, and ask students in third grade and above to complete an online safety course each year.

“These are good provisions that will aid law enforcement, parents and educators to work together with Internet providers in helping protect our children,” Sen. **Staton** added. “I am confident that the bill strikes a fair balance between the desire to protect kids, and the desire to keep the Internet as open and free of legal limitation as possible.”

SB 474 passed the Senate on Thursday by a vote of 52 to 0 and now moves to the House.

The following key bills passed the Senate

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- **SB 433** modifies certificate of need requirements to allow certain destination cancer hospitals in Georgia. *Passed on 02/27/08 by substitute 31 to 23.*
- **HB 967** exempts prisons and other correctional institutions of the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice from certificate of need requirements. *Passed on 02/27/08 by a vote of 41 to 2.*
- **SB 366** prohibits inmates from receiving or possessing cell phones. *Passed on 02/27/08 by a vote of 49 to 0.*
- **SB 385** provides for the licensing of limousine carriers to sell alcoholic beverages. *Passed on 02/26/2008 by a vote of 40 to 11.*
- **SB 454** provides that any county in which the Sunday sale of alcohol is authorized may authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages in certain public stadiums, coliseums and auditoriums. *Passed on 02/26/2008 by a vote of 30 to 20.*
- **SB 383** allows the Commissioner of Insurance to adopt policies to promote, approve and encourage health savings account eligible high deductible plans in Georgia. *Passed on 02/26/2008 by a vote of 36 to 12.*
- **SB 332** allows a transportation services contract to authorize the extension of or addition to MARTA's existing rail system. *Passed on 02/26/08 by a vote of 34 to 18.*
- **SB 300** The *Transparency in Government Act* requires all state spending to be available to the public on a searchable Web site. *Passed on 02/21/2008 by a vote of 49 to 0.*
- **HB 989** The Supplemental FY 2008 Appropriations bill. *Passed on 02/21/2008 by a vote of 51 to 2.*
- **SB 353** Known as the *Public Hospital Integrity Act*, this bill prohibits individuals from serving in a governing capacity of a public hospital, such as Grady, if they have financial ties to the hospital or any major vendor of the hospital. *Passed on 02/21/2008 by a vote of 51 to 0.*
- **SB 395** establishes the safety net clinic grant program for the care and protection of indigent and elderly patients. *Passed on 02/21/2008 by a vote of 49 to 0.*
- **SB 418** prohibits the sale of cigarettes in Georgia unless they meet new standards. Under the bill, cigarettes sold in Georgia must be fitted with "stops" that would extinguish lit cigarettes that are no longer being smoked. *Passed on 02/20/2008 by a vote of 44 to 1.*
- **SR 845** is a Constitutional Amendment authorizing county governments to propose a one-percent sales and use tax to fund the construction of transportation projects. *Adopted on 02/20/2008 by a vote of 51 to 4.*
- **SR 822** creates the Georgia-North Carolina and Georgia-Tennessee Boundary Line Commission. *Adopted on 02/20/2008 by a vote of 52 to 0.*
- **SB 361** is known as the *Georgia Consumer Protection Act*. It allows a consumer to place a security freeze on their credit report through major credit reporting agencies. The freeze would be free for consumers who are victims of identity theft and those over the age of 65. *Passed on 02/19/2008 by a vote of 45 to 4.*
- **SB 379** seeks to reduce the number of telephone solicitation calls to households in the state by regulating the use of automatic dialing services, or "robo-calls." *Passed on 02/19/2008 by a vote of 40 to 9.*

- **SB 387** streamlines the absentee balloting process by requiring clerks to check absentee ballots against voter information filed with a county's registrar's office. Also, Georgians living overseas can register for an absentee ballot online. *Passed on 02/19/2008 by a vote of 47 to 3.*

In Committee Action . . .

Administrative Affairs Committee

The Administrative Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee

The Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

Appropriations Committee

The Appropriations Committee did not meet this week.

Banking and Financial Institutions Committee

On Tuesday, February 26, Chairman **Bill Hamrick** of the 30th called the meeting to order. Representative **Austin Scott** of the 153rd presented *House Bill 579*, which provides for the assessment of certain storage charges on manufactured or mobile homes by real property owners, in addition to the establishment of a lien on manufactured or mobile homes for certain storage costs. **Charlotte Gattis**, representative of the Georgia Manufactured Housing Association, also addressed the committee to help explain the legislation. She spoke in favor of *HB 579*. *HB 579* passed unanimously. Chairman **Hamrick** then called on **Rob Braswell**, executive director of Georgia's Department of Banking & Finance, to explain *HB 921*, which would create a nationwide automated licensing system for mortgage brokers and mortgage lenders. *HB 921* passed unanimously. Testimony was then heard from Sen. **Emanuel Jones** of the 10th on *Senate Bill 465*, which would change the requirement for sending a notice to a debtor in the case of foreclosure. Representatives from the Community Bankers Association of Georgia and the Georgia Bankers Association spoke against the legislation. Sen. **Mullis** and Chairman **Hamrick** asked additional clarifying questions of the representatives and Mr. **Braswell**. Chairman **Hamrick** stated that today's meeting would be a hearing only on *SB 465*, and the committee adjourned.

Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee met on Thursday, February 27, to consider *Senate Bill 449*, which is known as the *Landowners Protection Act of 2008*. Senator **Bill Heath** of the 31st presented the legislation, which provides property owners immunity from civil liability when they allow a person to hunt on his/her land, or when the property owner allows a person to enter his/her property for "agritourism" purposes, provided the property owner's conduct is not grossly negligent. After a lengthy discussion, *SB 449* passed by a vote of 6 to 1, with Sen. **Ed Tarver** of the 22nd in dissent.

Education and Youth Committee

Chairman **Dan Weber** of the 40th called the Committee to order on Wednesday, February 20. Chairman **Weber** called the Committee to order to take up *Senate Bill 458*, sponsored by Senate President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1st, which provides that if a school system or local school loses or fails to attain accreditation or is designated a Needs Improvement School for seven consecutive years, students have the option of attending another public school or receiving scholarships to attend a private school. Representatives from the Georgia PTA, Georgia Association of Educators, Georgia School Superintendents Association, Georgia School Boards Association, Professional Association of Georgia Educators and Georgia Association of Educational Leaders spoke in opposition to *SB 458*. **Jamie Self**, Georgia Family Council representative and **Kevin Moore**, representative of Black Alliance for Educational Options, spoke in support of the bill. Chairman **Weber** announced the Committee will vote on *SB 458* in the next meeting.

The Committee met Tuesday, February 26. Chairman **Weber** called the Committee to order to take up several bills. Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th presented *SB 497*, which would require local school systems that receive Quality Based Education (QBE) funding for high school foreign language teachers to be reassigned to elementary schools beginning in 2010-11. Chairman **Weber** then introduced *SB 506*, sponsored by Senator **Joseph Carter** of the 13th, which would require local school systems to conduct a Body Mass Index test twice a year on K-12 students. The Committee quickly took a vote on *SB 458*, which provides that if a school system or local school loses or fails to attain accreditation or is designated a Needs Improvement School for seven consecutive years, students have the option of attending another public school or receiving scholarships to attend a private school. *SB 458* passed by committee substitute, 7 to 4, with Senators **Fort, Thomas, Tate** and **Ramsey** dissenting. Representatives from the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Heart Association, Georgia Association of Educators, and the Atlanta Falcons Foundation spoke in support of *SB 506*. Sen. **Regina Thomas** of the 2nd offered an amendment changing the start date from the 2008-2009 school years to 2010-11. The amendment failed 4 to 7. Sen. **Ron Ramsey** of the 43rd also offered an amendment inserting the word confidential. *SB 506* passed as amended, with a vote of 9 to 1.

On Wednesday, February 27, Chairman **Weber** called the Committee to order. The Committee met to take up *SB 257*, which is sponsored by Senator **Vincent Fort** of the 39th, which enact the “Dropout Deterrent Act” that would require that children between the ages of six and seventeen attend a public or private school, or home school program. Representatives from the Georgia School Boards Association, DeKalb County Schools and Georgia School Superintendents Association spoke in support of the bill. *SB 257* passed unanimously.

Ethics Committee

On Thursday, February 7, Chairman **Renee Unterman** of the 45th called the first meeting of the 2008 legislative session to order. Senator **Cecil Staton** of the 18th testified on *Senate Bill 387*, which made four procedural changes to Georgia law governing absentee ballots. A representative from the Secretary of State’s office spoke in support of the legislation. *SB 387* passed 8-1, with Sen. **Kasim Reed** of the 35th in dissent. The committee then began discussion of *SB 372*, which would require every elected local governing body in Georgia to establish an ethics commission. The bill’s primary sponsor Sen. **Reed** explained the bill and he noted that a substitute had been worked on by Sen. **Eric Johnson** of the 1st, and that the committee would be voting on this substitute. Sen. **Johnson** then walked the committee through an amendment to the substitute, which would provide for semi-annual training of lobbyists, in addition to making minor language changes. **Lamar Norton** of the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) spoke in favor of the bill. **Rick Thompson** of the State Ethics Commission asked the committee to reconsider the definition of “influence” in the bill’s language, which prompted several clarifying questions from the committee. **Bill Bozarth** of Common Cause Georgia spoke in favor of the bill, suggesting a minor addition pertaining to how a member is removed, if needed. The Committee accepted his change in language. Finally, **Megan Middleton**, representing the City of Atlanta, spoke in favor of the substitute. *SB 372* passed unanimously by committee substitute as amended.

Finance Committee

On Tuesday, February 19, Chairman **Chip Rogers** of the 21st called the meeting to order. Senator **John Bulloch** of the 11th explained *Senate Bill 397*, which provides that eligible housing units located in more than one county will come under the jurisdiction of either the supreme court of the county in which the authority is located or the superior court of any county where the housing units are located. **Walter Maddox** of the Randolph County Housing Authority spoke in support of the proposed legislation, which passed unanimously.

The Committee reconvened on Wednesday, February 27, to take up five bills. Chairman **Rogers** called the meeting to order and the Committee began consideration of *SB 493*. Authored by Sen. **Curt Thompson** of the 5th, the bill provides that all or part of the ad valorem property taxes levied by the Community Improvement Districts (CID) may be included in the computation of tax allocation increments of a Tax Allocation District (TAD) if

the administrative body of the community improvement district consents to the inclusion. *SB 493* passed unanimously. The Committee then turned its attention to *SB 472*, authored by Sen. David **Shafer** of the 48th, which provides for the Department of Revenue to utilize new technology to implement digital-based cigarette stamp processes to prevent forgery and tax evasion. **Greg Martin**, representative of the Southern Association of Wholesale Distributors, spoke against the bill. *SB 472* passed unanimously. The Committee then considered two resolutions authored by Sen. **Dan Weber** of the 40th, *Senate Resolutions 996* and *1024*, which position the General Assembly to create one or more education improvement districts to facilitate the needs of public schools or special schools. After attorney **Sharon Gay** spoke in favor of *SR 996*, both resolutions passed unanimously. Finally, the Committee heard an explanation of *House Bill 1014*, authored by Representative **Richard Royal** of the 171st, which expands the purpose of the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan to include qualified tuition programs, and makes changes to other various provisions of the Plan. *HB 1014* passed unanimously.

Government Oversight Committee

The Government Oversight Committee did not meet this week.

Health and Human Services Committee

The Committee convened on Thursday, February 21, to consider *Senate Bills 404, 469, 401* and *490* and *Senate Resolution 788*. Senator **Tommie Williams** of the 19th presented *SB 404*, which establishes the Georgia Health Marketplace (GHM), an internet portal that will provide consumers with access to healthcare products and programs. This bill also creates the Georgia Health Marketplace Authority to operate the GHM. *SB 404* passed unanimously by substitute. Sen. **Seth Harp** of the 29th presented *SB 469*, which allows a “personal care home” to house two patients, instead of one. *SB 469* passed unanimously. Sen. **Cecil Staton** of the 18th presented the Committee Substitute to *SB 401*, which requires all Medicaid providers to execute a statement of participation or a provider agreement with the Department of Community Health (DCH). *SB 401* was assigned to a sub-committee. Sen. **Don Balfour** of the 9th presented *SB 490*, which permits DCH to allow a skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility or intermingled nursing facility to divide into two or more facilities without obtaining an additional CON. *SB 490* passed unanimously. Sen. **Don Thomas** of the 54th presented *SR 788*, which creates the Senate Study Committee on Brain Injury Related Neurobehavioral Issues in Georgia that will study the conditions, needs and problems regarding neurobehavioral issues. *SR 788* passed unanimously by substitute.

The Committee met again Tuesday, February 26, to hear a presentation and consider *SB 378*. **Becky Kelley**, director of Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites, gave a presentation on the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, which illustrates how to utilize recreational assets to encourage healthy lifestyles. Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45th presented *SB 378*, which creates the new Department of Aging to be the successor and continuation of the Division of Aging Services of the Department of Human Resources (DHR). The Department of Aging will serve as the lead planning agency for all aging issues and will provide coordinated, streamlined services to older Georgians. *SB 378* passed by substitute by a vote of 8 to 1, with Sen. **John Wiles** of the 37th in dissent.

Higher Education Committee

Chairman **Seth Harp** of the 29th called the Committee to order on Tuesday, February 26, to consider *Senate Bill 492*, by Senator **John Bulloch** of the 11th. The bill allows high schools accredited by the Florida Council of Independent Schools to be eligible for the HOPE scholarship. Sen. **John Wiles** of the 37th offered an amendment that allows high school AP students who are considered sophomores in their first year of college to receive the HOPE scholarship. Both the amendment and bill passed unanimously. The Committee then heard presentations from Dr. **Henry Hector**, president of the Georgia Foundation for Independent Colleges and Dr. **Elizabeth Kiss**, president of Agnes Scott College, on scholarship needs of private and independent colleges.

Insurance and Labor Committee

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On Wednesday, February 20, Chairman **Ralph Hudgens** of the 47th called the Committee to take up *Senate Bill 403*, sponsored by Senator **Steve Henson** of the 41st, which would require employers to pay former employees their final pay on or before the next regular payday. Sen. **Henson** clarified the changes in the committee substitute for *SB 403*. Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51st offered an amendment to *SB 403*, which substituted fifteen days pay as the penalty for refusal to pay instead of the proposed thirty days. *SB 403* passed unanimously by committee substitute as amended. Chairman **Hudgens** then introduced *SB 348*, which prohibits local governments from imposing any fees or taxes, other than the local premium tax, upon insurance companies for covering services involving motor vehicle accidents. *SB 348* passed unanimously by substitute. Chairman **Hudgens** then introduced *SB 383*, sponsored by Sen. **Judson Hill** of the 32nd, which requires the Commissioner of Insurance to develop flexible guidelines for coverage and approval of Health Savings Account eligible high deductible plans. *SB 383* passed unanimously. Sen. **Jack Murphy** of the 27th presented *SB 338*, which prohibits health benefit plans and policies from requiring prior approval for any prescription drug. Representatives from the Medical Association of Georgia spoke in support of *SB 338*. The Committee then heard testimony from several groups in opposition to the bill, including Express Scripts, Georgia Association of Health Plans, and the State Health Benefit Plan. After language within the bill seemed to be in conflict, Chairman **Hudgens** held *SB 338* until a new substitute could be submitted by Sen. **Murphy**.

On Wednesday, February 27, Chairman **Hudgens** called the Committee to order. Senator **Johnny Grant** of the 25th presented on *SB 425*, which allows the Department of Administrative Services to establish incentive programs based on loss control programs. *SB 425* passed unanimously. The Committee then took up *SB 468*, sponsored by Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33rd, which requires insurers to annually publish a summary statement of their financial health and condition and include a summary of the insurer's rate filings in the legal organ of the county. Sen. **Thompson** presented the bill. **Danny Orrock**, a policy coordinator for GeorgiaWatch, spoke in support of the bill. **Joe Cregan**, representing MagMutual Insurance Company, spoke in opposition. *SB 468* passed 5 to 1 with Sen. **Dan Moody** of the 56th in dissent. Chairman **Hudgens** introduced *SB 470*, requires every property and casualty insurance company in Georgia, to annually submit the opinion of an appointed actuary entitled "Statement of Actuarial Opinion." *SB 470* was passed unanimously. Then, *SB 471* was introduced, which broadens the scope of confidential material by including any materials created, produced or obtained by or disclosed to the Insurance Commissioner. *SB 471* passed unanimously. Chairman **Hudgens** also introduced *SB 499*, which establishes the oversight and regulation of life settlement contracts. *SB 499* passed unanimously by committee substitute.

Interstate Cooperation Committee

The Interstate Cooperation Committee did not meet this week.

Judiciary Committee

The Committee met on Thursday, February 21, and began by considering *Senate Bill 436*, presented by Sen. **Bill Cowsert** of the 46th, which seeks to make it easier for a board of directors of a publicly traded corporation to elect a new director by increasing the percentage of votes. **Bruce Wanamaker** of the Georgia State Bar testified in support of the bill, which passed unanimously. Chairman **Preston Smith** of the 52nd then gave a brief history of *SB 529*, which passed out of Committee last year. The bill is authored by Sen. **Vincent Fort** of the 39th, and states that probable cause is needed in order to issue a "no-knock" warrant. Among those who testified on the bill, **Frank Rotondo** of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police stated that while he is in support of the bill's goal, he is concerned with requiring a standard higher than what the courts have mandated. *SB 529* passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman **Seth Harp** of the 29th called a meeting to order on Wednesday, February 27, to take up three bills. Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45th presented *SB 453*, which makes it illegal to distribute any illegal substances near a park or recreation area. The bill passed unanimously. Sen. **Hamrick** then introduced **Chuck Olson** of the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia to present *SB 396*, which transfers payroll functions of superior court judges from the Department of Administrative Services to the Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia. *SB 396* passed unanimously. Sen. **Harp** then presented *SB 483*, which

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provides for the uniformity of the child support process. Sen. **John Wiles** of the 37th voiced his concerns that the bill proposes major code changes that require further discussion. The Committee unanimously voted to pass *SB 483*.

Natural Resources and the Environment Committee

Chairman **Ross Tolleson** of the 20th called the meeting to order on Thursday, February 21. Senator **John Bulloch** of the 11th presented *Senate Resolution 820*, which creates the Joint Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Law Enforcement Study Committee to review the laws relating to purposes directed toward public safety, homeland security and natural resource protection in Georgia. *SR 820* passed through the Committee with a unanimous vote. Next, Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51st presented *Senate Bill 463*, which allows private residential direct reuse of gray water under certain restrictions. After some minor language changes, *SB 463* also passed by a unanimous vote. Finally, *SB 466* was presented by Sen. **Bulloch**. The legislation exempts carwash facilities from outdoor water use restrictions. **Gary Dennis**, president of the Georgia Chapter of the Southeastern Carwash Association, spoke in favor of the bill by giving further details of common recycling systems and statistics. The bill subsequently passed unanimously.

On Wednesday, February 27, the Committee met to take up two bills. Sen. **Johnny Grant** of the 25th presented *SB 389*, which requires boating safety education. Colonel **Homer Bryson** of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Law Enforcement answered some questions of the Committee members. After some minor language changes, *SB 389* passed unanimously by substitute. Next, Sen. **Bulloch** presented *SB 476*, which ratifies the Georgia Code rules of the DNR game and fish criminal violations. The bill also passed through the Committee unanimously.

Public Safety Committee

On Thursday, February 21, Chairman **Jack Murphy** of the 27th called the meeting to order. Senator **Jeff Mullis** of the 53rd explained *Senate Bill 437*, which requires that a certificate of title in Georgia be issued for a motor vehicle or motorcycle before a certificate of registration is issued. *SB 437* passed unanimously. Chairman **Murphy** moved the committee's attention to *House Bill 77*, which requires a permit from the Department of Transportation for the use of a traffic-control signal monitoring device. **Dan Bruno**, assistant chief of the Gwinnett Police Department, spoke against the bill, noting the value of local oversight. **Keith Golden**, Traffic Safety & Design Engineer at Georgia's Department of Transportation, spoke in favor of the permits. **Jon King**, chief of Police of Doraville, spoke against the bill, and was commended by Sen. **Douglas** for his service locally and in Iraq. **Robert Dallas**, director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, spoke in favor of the bill, noting that his only concern was that the DOT provided good signage as part of their oversight. *HB 77* passed by committee substitute 8 to 1, with Sen. **Douglas** in dissent. The committee then considered *HB 945*, which was presented by Rep. **Tom Rice** of the 51st. The legislation would authorize certain persons or entities to access vehicle tag and title information in order to provide notice to the owners of towed or impounded vehicles. Additionally, the bill allows any person who removes a vehicle from public or private property at the request of a law enforcement officer or the property owner to seek the identity and address of all known owners by direct electronic access from state agencies and authorities. *HB 945* passed unanimously. Finally, Rep. **Rice** presented *HB 1027*, which requires that any driver improvement program or DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Program, at which attendance is required by court order, must conform to the requirements of this legislation. **Michael Falk**, a representative of Georgia driving instructors, spoke in opposition to the bill. His testimony was followed by **Denise Thames**, executive director of MADD Georgia, who made it clear that her organization's position was neutral. Sen. **Mullis** put forth an amendment that made a minor change in the bill's language. *HB 1027* passed as amended by committee substitute unanimously.

The Committee reconvened on Tuesday, February 26, to consider *SB 394*, *349*, *488* and *414*. Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45th presented *SB 394*, which requires that 50 percent of the funds collected from red light cameras (minus any costs incurred for acquisition, installation, maintenance and operation of the camera) be deposited into the State treasury to help fund a

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trauma care system in Georgia. After much deliberation, the Committee voted to not pass *SB 394* by a vote of 5 to 2, with Senators **Bill Jackson** of the 24th and **Jeff Chapman** of the 3rd in dissent. Sen. **John Wiles** of the 37th presented *SB 349*, which provides that a sheriff may petition the sentencing court for a hearing to determine if a convicted person should be transferred from a local jail to state custody 90 days after a request for local custody has been filed. *SB 349* passed unanimously. Sen. **Chip Rogers** of the 21st presented *SB 488*, which allows a non-citizen who is eligible for a Georgia driver's license or state issued ID card to be issued a driver's license without having to surrender their foreign license or foreign ID card. *SB 488* passed unanimously by substitute. Sen. **Mullis** presented *SB 414*, which makes changes to the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council in an effort to streamline duties and responsibilities of the Council. *SB 414* passed unanimously by substitute.

Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee

The Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee did not meet this week.

Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee

The Committee met on Wednesday, February 20. Chairman **David Shafer** of the 48th brought up *Senate Bill 473*, which changes the requirements for a certificate of "certified public accountant" to one year of continuous experience in public accountancy. The bill's author Sen. **Mitch Seabaugh** of the 28th explained the bill and was supported by **Gary Julien**, executive director of the Georgia Society of CPAs. *SB 473* passed unanimously. Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45th then explained *SB 454*, which provides that any county in which the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages is permitted may authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages in certain public stadiums, coliseums and auditoriums. This bill also passed unanimously.

The Committee reconvened on Wednesday, February 27, to take up four bills. First, the Committee heard *SB 424*, which is authored by Sen. **Johnny Grant** of the 25th. The bill changes requirements for obtaining a barbering license by mandating that applicants possess a high school diploma or its equivalent and implements a minimum age requirement of 16 years to obtain a license. *SB 424* passed unanimously. The Committee then heard *SB 479*, which provides that annual ambulance licensing fees cannot exceed \$1000. After a minor change in the bill's language, *SB 479* passed by substitute unanimously as amended. The Committee then heard testimony on *SB 485*, authored by Sen. **John Wiles** of the 37th, which creates the State Licensing Board of Home Inspectors. A representative from the Georgia Association of Realtors spoke in favor of the bill. *SB 485* passed by committee substitute unanimously. Finally, the Committee again took up *SB 413*, authored by Sen. **Eric Johnson** of the 1st, which provides for the licensure and regulation of unarmed combat. Representatives from Georgia's Sports Hall of Fame and the state's wrestling referees spoke in favor of the bill. Representatives from the World Wrestling Federation and Total Nonstop Action, who previously spoke against the bill, mentioned that their organizations are becoming increasingly content with the bill due to negotiations with the bill's author. After further discussion, Chairman **Shafer** stated the Committee would not vote on *SB 479* at today's meeting.

Retirement Committee

The Retirement Committee did not meet this week.

Rules Committee

The Rules Committee did not meet as a standing committee this week.

Science and Technology Committee

The Committee convened on Thursday, February 21, to consider *Senate Bill 474*, authored by Chairman **Cecil Staton** of the 18th. This model Internet safety legislation seeks to protect children from Internet predators by giving parents the option to block their child's access to specific sites, among other measures. **Braden Cox** of NetChoice testified in support of the bill, which passed unanimously.

Chairman **Staton** called another meeting to order on Wednesday, February 27, to consider *SB 525*, his legislation that would modify the powers of the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA). **Kate Pfirman** and **Jeff McCord** of GTA presented the bill and answered questions from the Committee. *SB 525* passed unanimously.

Special Judiciary Committee

On Thursday, February 21, Vice Chairman **David Adelman** of the 42nd called the Committee meeting to order. First, Senator **Adelman** presented *Senate Bills 455* and *456*, which both correct the typographical and stylistic errors found throughout the Official Code of Georgia and Title 21. Both of the bills were approved by a unanimous vote. Next, Sen. **Curt Thompson** of the 5th presented *SB 217*, which allows for neighborhood associations to enforce covenants. *SB 217* also passed through the Committee unanimously by substitute.

Chairman **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12th called another meeting to order on Tuesday, February 26, to take up two bills. Sen. **Horacena Tate** of the 38th presented *SB 496*, which prohibits mortgage businesses from influencing an appraiser's evaluation of a property. After brief questioning, the bill passed through the Committee unanimously. Chairman **Meyer von Bremen** then recognized the Honorable Judges **Mike Bracewell** of the Morgan County probate court and **Jim Clarke** of the Gwinnett County probate courts to present *SB 508*. This legislation makes changes throughout Georgia estate law and probate courts. *SB 508* also passed through the Committee unanimously by substitute.

State Institutions and Property Committee

Chairman **Johnny Grant** of the 25th called another meeting to order on Tuesday, February 26, to consider two of his measures, *Senate Bill 502* and *Senate Resolution 1012*. *SB 502* allows retired certified parole officers who have served 20 or more years to retain their badge. The bill passed unanimously. *SR 1012* allows for the conveyance of certain state property. Chairman **Grant** stated that all Senators whose districts are affected by this legislation have been notified and signed onto the bill. *SR 1012* passed unanimously by Committee Substitute.

State and Local Governmental Operations Committee

Chairman **John Wiles** of the 37th called the meeting to order on Wednesday, February 20th, to take up *House Bill 975*. This bill prohibits local governments to issue backdated licenses or permits. Representative **Mark Burkhalter** of the 50th presented the bill to the Committee. He was followed by favorable comments from Senator **Dan Moody** of the 56th. After some discussion, *HB 975* passed through the Committee unanimously.

Transportation Committee

Chairman **Jeff Mullis** of the 53rd called the Committee to order on Wednesday, February 20. Executive Director Kevin Green of the Clean Air Campaign first presented the Committee with information on Georgia's current transportation issues, offering some ideas on how to solve some of Atlanta's major problems with traffic congestion and air quality. Senator **Doug Stoner** of the 6th then presented *Senate Resolution 428*, which creates the Senate Railroad Security and Safety Study Committee. After a brief presentation by representatives of CSX and Norfolk Southern Railways, *SR 428* passed through Committee unanimously.

Urban Affairs Committee

The Urban Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee

Chairman **John Douglas** of the 17th called the meeting to order on Wednesday, February 27. The Committee first considered *Senate Bill 512*, authored by Chairman **Douglas**, which authorizes the distribution of a \$1,500 grant per academic semester to each eligible student attending North Georgia College. *SB 512* passed by substitute unanimously.

Georgia Senate First Readers

(Thursday, February 14 – Thursday, February 28)

Senate Resolutions

- SR 908** **Li, Mrs. Jane; recognize**
Sens. **Bill Heath** (31st); **Judson Hill** (32nd); **Chip Pearson** (51st)
and **Jeff Mullis** (53rd)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 909** **Epilepsy Awareness Day; recognize Feb. 20**
Sen. **John Douglas** (17th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 910** **Oglesby, Lynn; commend**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 911** **Cherokee County Marshal's Office; commend**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 912** **Buchanan, Wade; commend**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 913** **Echols County, Georgia; recognize**
Sen. **Greg Goggans** (7th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 914** **Webb, Dr. Charles; commend**
Sen. **Tommie Williams** (19th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 915** **Davis, Jefferson Finis; recognize**
[Sens.](#) **John Bulloch** (11th); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Don Thomas** (54th);
Tommie Williams (19th); **George Hooks** (14th) and **Eric Johnson** (1st)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 916** **Peanut Butter and Jelly Day; recognize March 5**
Sens. **John Bulloch** (11th); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Don Thomas** (54th);
Tommie Williams (19th); **George Hooks** (14th) and **Eric Johnson** (1st)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 917** **Wade, Kristin; condolences**
Sen. **Judson Hill** (32nd)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 918** **Alpha Kappa Alpha Day; recognize February 18**
Sens. **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Gloria Butler** (55th); **Robert Brown** (26th);
Regina Thomas (2nd); **Ed Harbison** (15th) and **Gail Davenport** (44th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08

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- SR 919 Political Commentators; expressing dismay of those who engage in attacks on certain candidates**
Sens. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Don Thomas** (54th) and **Bill Hamrick** (30th)
Rules Committee – 02/14/08
- SR 920 Jarrell, Dr. Harold; commend**
Sen. **Ed Harbison** (15th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 921 Jarrell, Dr. Floyd; commend**
Sen. **Ed Harbison** (15th)
Read and adopted – 02/14/08
- SR 965 Taxpayer Dividend Amendment of 2008; income tax relief in the event of budget surplus; definitions; provide for excess revenues-CA**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st); **George Hooks** (14th); **Tommie Williams** (19th); **David Shafer** (48th); **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Mitch Seabaugh** (28th) and others
Finance Committee – 02/19/08
- SR 966 Cagle, Mr. John Athon; recognize**
Sen. **Chip Pearson** (51st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 967 Empire Board of Realtists, Inc.; commend**
Sens. **Gail Davenport** (44th); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Ed Tarver** (22nd); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Horacena Tate** (38th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 968 Beazer, Jabez; recognize**
Sen. **Ed Harbison** (15th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 969 Columbus High School Girl's Volleyball Team; recognize**
Sen. **Ed Harbison** (15th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 970 Open Meetings/Records; any governmental body; performing public purpose shall be open to the public-CA**
Sens. **David Adelman** (42nd); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Valencia Seay** (34th); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **Gloria Butler** (55th); **Emanuel Jones** (10th) and others
Ethics Committee – 02/20/08
- SR 971 Edwards, Linda; commend**
Sens. **John Wiles** (37th); **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Doug Stoner** (6th) and **Judson Hill** (32nd)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 972 Houston County Board of Education; congratulate**
Sen. **Ross Tolleson** (20th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 973 Bumpus, Rev. James Louis; commend**
Sen. **Robert Brown** (26th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 974 Ratliff, Bill; commend**
Sen. **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08
- SR 975 Solinko, Mrs. Lorraine Stella; honoring**

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Sen. **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 976 **Saunders, Sherry; commend**
Sen. **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 977 **Ruffer, Cheryl; commend**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 978 **Miracle Making Ministries, Inc.; Pastor Robert L. Williams; commend**
Sen. **Ed Tarver** (22nd)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 979 **Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance; recognize**
Sen. **Ed Tarver** (22nd)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 980 **General Bill Livsey Highway; Fayette County; dedicate**
Sens. **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **John Douglas** (17th); **Seth Harp** (29th) and **Cecil Staton** (18th)
Transportation Committee – 02/20/08

SR 981 **Adjournment; relative**
Sens. **Tommie Williams** (19th); **Robert Brown** (26th) and **Eric Johnson** (1st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 982 **283rd Combat Communications Squadron of Georgia Air National Guard; commend**
Sens. **John Wiles** (37th); **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **Judson Hill** (32nd) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 983 **Bullock, III, Dr. Charles S.; recognize**
Sens. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Bill Cowsert** (46th); **Eric Johnson** (1st); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Mitch Seabaugh** (28th); **David Shafer** (48th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 984 **Cablik, Ms. Anna R.; recognize**
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd); **Chip Pearson** (51st) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 985 **Stelling, Jr., Mr. Kessel D.; recognize**
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd); **John Wiles** (37th) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 986 **Watson, Mr. John K.; recognize**
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd); **John Wiles** (37th) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 987 **Oconee County Middle School Future Farmers of America; recognize**
Sens. **Bill Cowsert** (46th); **John Bulloch** (11th) and **Greg Goggans** (7th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

SR 988 **Dubberly, Jr.; B. Daniel; commend**
Sens. **Jack Hill** (4th) and **Tommie Williams** (19th)
Read and adopted – 02/20/08

- SR 989 Long, Ms. Dianne; commend**
Sens. **John Bulloch** (11th); **Ralph Hudgens** (47th) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 990 Proposed Land Farm; commend**
Sen. **Regina Thomas** (2nd)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 991 Orange, Rev. Doctor James Edward; recognize**
Sens. **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Ed Harbison** (15th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd) and others
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 992 Stephens County; recognize**
Sen. **Nancy Schaefer** (50th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 993 Paul Anderson Memorial Park; recognize**
Sen. **Nancy Schaefer** (50th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 994 GAcollge411 Day at the capitol; recognize**
Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th) and **Cecil Staton** (18th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 995 Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency; recognize**
Sens. **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Seth Harp** (29th); **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Jack Hill** (4th) and **David Adelman** (42nd)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 996 Counties/Municipalities; local boards of education; authorize to use tax funds for redevelopment purposes/programs CA**
Sens. **Dan Weber** (40th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Curt Thompson** (5th); **Don Balfour** (9th); **Dan Moody** (56th) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Finance Committee – 02/21/08
- SR 997 Tattnall Square Academy Football Team; recognize**
Sen. **Cecil Staton** (18th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 998 Murphey Candler Little League; commend**
Sen. **Dan Weber** (40th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 999 2007 Georgia School for the Deaf Football Team; recognize**
Sen. **Preston Smith** (52nd)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 1000 Georgia School for the Deaf Girls' Basketball Team; recognize**
Sen. **Preston Smith** (52nd)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 1001 Callaway, Coach Anson S.; honoring**
Sens. **Jack Hill** (4th) and **Tommie Williams** (19th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 1002 University of West Georgia Cheerleading Teams; commend**
Sens. **Bill Hamrick** (30th); **Bill Heath** (31st); **Mitch Seabaugh** (28th) and **Don Thomas** (54th)
Read and adopted – 02/21/08
- SR 1016 Traditional Migration Month; recognize month of November**
Sen. **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th)

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Read and adopted – 02/26/08

- SR 1017 Watkins, James paul; commend**
Sen. **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1018 Hammack III, Lt. Colonel Dan; recognize**
Sens. **John Douglas** (17th) and **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th)
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1019 Hughley, Mrs. Stephanie S.; recognize**
Sens. **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Horacena Tate** (38th);
Vincent Fort (39th); **Gail Davenport** (44th); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd)
and others
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1020 Senate Sexual Exploitation of Minors Study Committee; create**
Sens. **Renee Unterman** (45th); **Eric Johnson** (1st);
Tommie Williams (19th); **Mitch Seabaugh** (28th) and **Dan Moody** (56th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/26/08
- SR 1021 Sartain family; recognize**
Sens. **Steve Henson** (41st); **Gloria Butler** (55th); **David Adelman** (42nd);
Curt Thompson (5th); **Dan Weber** (40th); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd)
and others
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1022 Partnership for Health and Accountability; commend**
Sens. **Don Thomas** (54th); **Renee Unterman** (45th); **Greg Goggans** (7th);
Lee Hawkins (49th); **Preston Smith** (52nd); **Nancy Schaefer** (50th)
and others
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1023 Trudeau, Dennis O.; recognize**
Sens. **Bill Jackson** (24th); **Don Thomas** (54th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th);
Renee Unterman (45th); **Greg Goggans** (7th); **Ralph Hudgens** (47th)
and others
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1024 Education Improvement Districts; provide by local law the
creation/comprehensive regulation-CA**
Sens. **Dan Weber** (40th); **David Adelman** (42nd); **Eric Johnson** (1st);
Tommie Williams (19th) and **Kasim Reed** (35th)
Finance Committee – 02/26/08
- SR 1025 AVID Day at the Capitol; declare March 4, 2008**
Sen. **John Douglas** (17th)
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1026 Blount Police Officer Aaron Jovon; condolences**
Sens. **John Douglas** (17th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Vincent Fort** (39th);
Judson Hill (32nd); **Jack Murphy** (27th); **Nan Orrock** (36th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/26/08
- SR 1027 Mullinax, Taylor; recognize**
Sen. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd)
Read and adopted – 02/26/08

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- SR 1028** **McGowan, Brigadier General John E.; condolences**
 Sen. **John Douglas** (17th)
Read and adopted – 02/27/08
- SR 1029** **Sergeant William Morgan Callahan; Taylor County; dedicate a bridge**
 Sens. **George Hooks** (14th) and **Cecil Staton** (18th)
Transportation Committee – 02/27/08
- SR 1030** **Joint Electronic Records, Signatures, Filing and Recording Study Committee; create**
 Sens. **Preston Smith** (52nd); **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th); **Seth Harp** (29th); **Bill Heath** (31st); **Cecil Staton** (18th) and **Ed Tarver** (22nd)
Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08
- SR 1031** **Brooks, Dr. Ray; recognize**
 Sens. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Don Thomas** (54th); **Preston Smith** (52nd) and **George Hooks** (14th)
Read and adopted – 02/27/08
- SR 1032** **Gregory, Mr. James; recognize**
 Sens. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Bill Hamrick** (30th); **Preston Smith** (52nd) and **George Hooks** (14th)
Read and adopted – 02/27/08
- SR 1033** **McPherson, Randy; recognize**
 Sen. **Tim Golden** (8th)
Read and adopted – 02/27/08
- SR 1034** **Lowndes High School Viking Football Team; recognize**
 Sen. **Tim Golden** (8th)
Read and adopted – 02/27/08
- SR 1035** **Leonard R. Nookie Meadows Memorial Highway; Meriwether County; dedicate**
 Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th) and **George Hooks** (14th)
Transportation Committee – 02/28/08
- SR 1036** **Lambert, Ezekiel Roy; condolences**
 Sens. **Johnny Grant** (25th); **George Hook** (14th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th); **Ed Tarver** (22nd); **Tommie Williams** (19th); **Bill Jackson** (24th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/28/08
- SR 1037** **Mr. Gary Adler FourStar, Many Horses Foundation; recognize**
 Sen. **Curt Thompson** (5th)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08
- SR 1038** **Turkey; urged to grant Ecumenical Patriarch appropriate international recognition, ecclesiastical succession, right to train clergy**
 Sens. **David Adelman** (42nd); **George Hooks** (14th); **Judson Hill** (32nd); **Curt Thompson** (5th); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Emanuel Jones** (10th) and others
Rules Committee – 02/28/08
- SR 1039** **Franklin Jr., Robert Michael; recognize**
 Sens. **Gail Davenport** (44th); **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Ed Tarver** (22nd); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Ronal Ramsey, Sr.** (43rd) and others
Read and adopted – 02/28/08
- SR 1040** **Langdale, Noah N.; condolences**
 Sens. **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Cecil Staton** (18th);

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Seth Harp (29th); **John Wiles** (37th) and **Bill Cowsert** (46th)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1041 Law Enforcement Agencies, Government Entities, Volunteers; Meredith Hope Emerson investigation; recognize
Sen. **Chip Pearson** (51st)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1042 CAAG Day at the Capitol; declare February 28, 2008; Conditioned Air Association of Georgia; recognize
Sens. **Ralph Hudgens** (47th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th); **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Eric Johnson** (1st)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1043 Port of Savannah; expressing support
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd); **Eric Johnson** (1st); **Regina Thomas** (2nd); **Chip Pearson** (51st) and **Jeff Mullis** (53rd)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1044 2008 Legislative Fitness Challenge; recognize February 28, 2008
Sens. **Joseph Carter** (13th) and **Don Thomas** (54th)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1045 Massee, Leah; congratulate
Sens. **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Tim Golden** (8th); **Seth Harp** (29th); **George Hooks** (14th); **Bill Hamrick** (30th) and **Ronnie Chance** (16th)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1046 Senior Days at the Capitol; establishing February 26-28, 2008
Sens. **Renee Unterman** (45th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th); **Dan Weber** (40th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Gloria Butler** (55th); **Dan Moody** (56th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1047 Transportation Dept.; urged to consolidate its county barns/privatize road maintenance functions
Sens. **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Valencia Seay** (34th); **Doug Stoner** (6th) and **Kasim Reed** (35th)
Transportation Committee – 02/28/08

SR 1048 Federal Republic of Germany; expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd); **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th) and **Chip Pearson** (51st)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1049 Hudson, Orrin Checkmate; commend
Sen. **Gloria Butler** (55th)
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1050 Barker, Police Officer Eric; condolences
Sens. **Gloria Butler** (55th); **David Adelman** (42nd); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd); **Steve Henson** (41st); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Dan Weber** (40th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

SR 1051 Bryant, Jr., Police Officer Ricky; condolences
Sens. **Gloria Butler** (55th); **David Adelman** (42nd); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd); **Steve Henson** (41st); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Dan Weber** (40th) and others
Read and adopted – 02/28/08

Senate Bills

- SB 460** **Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund; membership dues in such fund; creditable service; provide a penalty**
Sens. **Bill Heath** (31st); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Nancy Shaefer** (50th) and **Preston Smith** (52nd)
Retirement Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 461** **Education; provide schools with certain guidelines regarding bullying; submit policy to Dept. of Education**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **Judson Hill** (32nd)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 462** **Banks County; provide for advisory referendum election; form of government; change three member to five member commission**
Sen. **Nancy Shaefer** (50th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 463** **State Minimum Standards Codes/Enforcement; adoption/continuation; change certain provisions; gray water recycling system; enforcement**
Sens. **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Jack Murphy** (27th); **Nancy Shaefer** (50th) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Natural Resources and the Environment Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 464** **Residential/General Contractors; licensure of qualifying agent without examination; five year business operation requirement**
Sens. **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Jeff Chapman** (3rd); **John Douglas** (17th); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Joseph Carter** (13th) and **Bill Heath** (31st)
Regulated Utilities and Industries Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 465** **Property; power of sale, mailing/delivery of notice to debtor; change requirement for sending such notice**
Sens. **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **David Adelman** (42nd); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Valencia Seay** (34th); **Robert Brown** (26th) and **Doug Stoner** (6th)
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 466** **Water Resources; exempt permanent facility car washes from outdoor watering restrictions under certain conditions**
Sens. **John Bulloch** (11th); **David Shafer** (48th); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th) and **Bill Cowsert** (46th)
Natural Resources and the Environment Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 467** **Upson County; board of commissioners; appointment of county manager/county clerk**
Sen. **George Hooks** (14th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 468** **Insurance; require all insurers authorized to do business in this state shall publish certain information on annual basis**
Sens. **Tommie Williams** (19th); **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Eric Johnson** (1st); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Don Balfour** (9th) and **David Adelman** (42nd);
Insurance and Labor Committee – 02/14/08
- SB 469** **Health; revise definition for personal care home; provide guidelines/oversight of host homes**
Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th) and **Don Thomas** (54th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/19/08

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- SB 470** **Property and Casualty Actuarial Opinion Law; provide for submission of annual statement**
 Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** (47th)
Insurance and Labor Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 471** **Insurance; provide regulator financial examinations of domestic insurers every five years**
 Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** (47th)
Insurance and Labor Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 472** **Anti-cigarette Smuggling Act; digital based cigarette stamp processes**
 Sens. **David Shafer** (48th); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Bill Hamrick** (30th); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **Tommie Williams** (19th) and others
Finance Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 473** **Accountants; increase regulatory protections for consumers of accounting services; definitions**
 Sens. **Mitch Seabaugh** (28th); **Don Balfour** (9th) and **David Shafer** (48th)
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 474** **Minors; provide availability of parental controls over Internet access**
 Sens. **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Bill Heath** (31st); **John Douglas** (17th); **J.B. Powell** (23rd); **Don Thomas** (54th); **Nancy Schaefer** (50th) and others
Science and Technology Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 475** **Georgia Fair Lending Act; revise; prohibit home loan practices; definitions**
 Sens. **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Robert Brown** (26th) and others
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 476** **Game/Fish; Board of Natural Resources rules/reg.; change certain provisions**
 Sens. **Bill Heath** (31st); **Ross Tolleson** (20th) and **John Bulloch** (11th)
Natural Resources and the Environment Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 477** **Counties/Municipal Corporations; unlawful to issue any backdated license, permit; provide for criminal penalty**
 Sens. **Dan Moody** (56th); **David Shafer** (48th); **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Chip Pearson** (51st) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 478** **Douglas Judicial Circuit; create a new superior court judgeship; initial appointment; election; term of office**
 Sens. **Bill Hamrick** (30th) and **Kasim Reed** (35th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/19/08
- SB 479** **Licensed Ambulance Services; collection of license fees; amend certain provisions**
 Sens. **Jeff Mullis** (53rd); **Steve Thompson** (33rd); **Johnny Grant** (25th); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **John Douglas** (17th) and **Ronnie Chance** (16th)
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 480** **HOPE scholarships; change certain definitions**
 Sens. **Tommie Williams** (19th); **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Horacena Tate** (38th) and **Kasim Reed** (35th)
Higher Education Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 481** **Offenses; sexual exploitation of children; provide for controlled access to such evidence in public inspections of evidence**

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Sens. **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Dan Weber** (40th);
Ronal Ramsey (43rd) and **Vincent Fort** (39th)
Judiciary Committee - 02/20/08

- SB 482** **Government; state law library; repeal chapter 11**
Sens. **Judson Hill** (32nd) and **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th)
Special Judiciary Committee - 02/20/08
- SB 483** **Child Support; revise certain definitions; process of calculating; provisions**
Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th) and **Joseph Carter** (13th)
Judiciary Committee - 02/20/08
- SB 484** **State Purchasing; funds appropriated to states budget units; dedicated to projects/contracts involving small businesses**
Sens. **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Tommie Williams** (19th);
Jeff Mullis (53rd); **Jack Murphy** (27th); **Dan Moody** (56th) and others
Government Oversight Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 485** **State Licensing Board of Home Inspectors; create; membership**
Sens. **John Wiles** (37th); **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th);
Bill Jackson (24th) and **Jack Murphy** (27th)
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 486** **Glynn County School District Ad Valorem Taxes; provide homestead exemption for educational purposes**
Sen. **Jeff Chapman** (3rd)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 487** **Transparency in Lawsuits Protection Act; ensure legislative enactments do not create a private right of action unless stated in legislation**
Sens. **John Wiles** (37th) and **Judson Hill** (32nd)
Judiciary Committee - 02/20/08
- SB 488** **Drivers Licenses; allow foreign nationals to keep license from their home country; exempt nonresidents; meet all licensing requirements in Georgia**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Nan Orrock** (36th)
and **David Adelman** (42nd)
Public Safety Committee - 2/20/08
- SB 489** **Credit Enhancement Loan Act; licensing of lenders by the Dept. of Banking/Finance; purposes; definitions; provide for penalties for violations**
Sens. **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Ed Tarver** (22nd);
Steve Thompson (33rd) and **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee – 02/20/08
- SB 490** **State Health; skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, and intermingled nursing facilities may be divided under certain conditions**
Sens. **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Don Balfour** (9th); **Greg Goggans** (7th);
Eric Johnson (1st) and **Ronnie Chance** (16th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 492** **HOPE Scholarship; add accrediting entity to the definition of the term eligible high school**
Sens. **John Bulloch** (11th) and **Seth Harp** (29th)
Higher Education Committee – 02/21/08

- SB 493** **Redevelopment Powers; computation of tax allocation increments of districts**
Sens. **Curt Thompson** (5th) and **Doug Stoner** (6th)
Finance Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 494** **Jasper County; tax commissioner; compensation; change certain provisions**
Sen. **Johnny Grant** (25th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 495** **Baldwin County School District; homestead exemption; increase income limitation; increase qualified homestead property**
Sen. **Johnny Grant** (25th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 496** **Mortgage Businesses; prohibit soliciting of facilitating fraudulent appraisal of value of property offered as security for mortgage/loan**
Sens. **Horacena Tate** (38th); **George Hooks** (14th);
Steve Thompson (33rd); **David Shafer** (48th); **Nan Orrock** (36th);
Emanuel Jones (10th) and others
Special Judiciary Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 497** **Education; require local school systems; reassign its high school foreign language teachers to elementary school**
Sens. **Tommie Williams** (19th); **Seth Harp** (29th);
Dan Weber (40th); **David Shafer** (48th); **Don Thomas** (54th);
Ronnie Chance (16th) and others
Education and Youth Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 498** **Cosmetic Laser Services; licensing; change certain provisions**
Sen. **John Wiles** (37th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 499** **Life Settlements Act; license requirements for providers/brokers**
Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** (47th)
Insurance and Labor Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 500** **Education; change calculations for equalization grants to include a factor for median household income**
Sens. **Joseph Carter** (13th) and **Ronnie Chance** (16th)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 501** **Seeds/Plants; certification; drought tolerant plant species; revise certain provisions**
Sen. **John Wiles** (37th)
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee – 02/21/08
- SB 509** **Local Sales/Use Taxes; revise manner/method of collecting**
Sens. **Chip Rogers** (21st) and **David Shafer** (48th)
Finance Committee – 02/26/08
- SB 510** **Speed Detection Devices; allow use in school zones only; definitions; operating requirements; provide for enforcement**
Sens. **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Kasim Reed** (35th);
Gloria Butler (55th); **Gail Davenport** (44th); **Valencia Seay** (34th)
and **Emanuel Jones** (10th)
Public Safety Committee – 02/26/08

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- SB 511 Prosecuting Attorneys; provide for pretrial prevention/diversion programs**
Sens. **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **David Shafer** (48th); **David Adelman** (42nd) and **Nan Orrock** (36th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/26/08
- SB 512 Education; provide grants to North Georgia college students who accept a military commission**
Sens. **John Douglas** (17th); **Chip Pearson** (51st); **Seth Harp** (29th); **Jack Murphy** (27th) and **Nancy Schaefer** (50th)
Veterans and Military Affairs Committee – 02/26/08
- SB 513 Fulton County Ad Valorem Taxes; provide homestead exemptions; county purposes**
Sens. **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Kasim Reed** (35th) and **Nan Orrock** (36th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/26/08
- SB 514 Education; determination of residency of students; change provisions**
Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th) and **Bill Cowsert** (46th)
Higher Education Committee – 02/26/08
- SB 515 Georgia Seed Development Commission; composition; advisory board, term of office; change certain provisions**
Sen. **John Bulloch** (11th)
Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 516 DeKalb County School District Ad Valorem Taxes; provide homestead exemption; educational purposes; specify terms/conditions**
Sens. **Steve Henson** (41st); **Gloria Butler** (55th); **David Adelman** (42nd); **Curt Thompson** (5th); **Dan Weber** (40th) and **Ron Ramsey** (43rd)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 517 Special License Plate; persons with disability; provide for issuance; business vehicles used by disabled employees**
Sen. **Judson Hill** (32nd)
Public Safety Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 518 Insurance; include contracts, agreements; removal of dents in motor vehicle; within definition of property insurance**
Sen. **Chip Rogers** (21st)
Insurance and Labor Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 519 Power of Sale; change the requirement for sending notice**
Sens. **Bill Hamrick** (30th); **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Kasim Reed** (35th) and **David Shafer** (48th)
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 520 Dogs; removing certain collars; provide for a misdemeanor**
Sens. **Greg Goggans** (7th); **Ross Tolleson** (20th); **Ralph Hudgens** (47th) and **Jeff Chapman** (3rd)
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 521 Juvenile Proceedings; redefine a term; provide public school disciplinary actions against students; terroristic threats against public school**
Sens. **Ed Tarver** (22nd); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **J.B. Powell** (23rd); **Eric Johnson** (1st) and **Bill Jackson** (24th)

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Education and Youth Committee – 02/27/08

- SB 522 Wild Animals; licenses/permits; revise certain provisions**
Sens. **John Bulloch** (11th); **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Lee Hawkins** (49th); **Ralph Hudgens** (47th) and **Bill Hamrick** (30th)
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 523 Education; capital outlay grants to local school systems; extend date for automatic repeal**
Sens. **Dan Moody** (56th) and **Jack Hill** (4th)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 524 Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority; create; authorize to provide parks and recreation services throughout Lowndes County**
Sen. **Tim Golden** (8th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 525 Georgia Technology Authority; change certain powers; authorize to develop certain plans and reports**
Sens. **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Bill Heath** (31st) and **John Douglas** (17th)
Science and Technology Committee – 02/27/08
- SB 526 Lottery for Education Act; define certain terms; under certain conditions lottery winnings may be assigned; court order**
Sens. **Seth Harp** (29th); **Bill Cowsert** (46th) and **Cecil Staton** (18th)
Economic Development Committee – 02/28/08
- SB 527 Foreclosure Rescue Fraud Prevention Act; enact; mortgages, conveyances to secure debt, liens**
Sens. **Gail Davenport** (44th); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Emanuel Jones** (10th); **Kasim Reed** (35th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Curt Thompson** (5th) and others
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee - 02/28/08
- SB 528 Deer Farming; revise certain provisions; alternative livestock farming; provide for regulation**
Sen. **Greg Goggans** (7th)
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee - 02/28/08
- SB 529 Rules of the Road; commit the offense of felony hit and run; provide for offense of homicide by vehicle, vessel**
Sens. **Johnny Grant** (25th); **Seth Harp** (29th); **Michael Meyer von Bremen** (12th); **Renee Unterman** (45th) and **Ron Ramsey** (43rd)
Judiciary Committee - 02/28/08
- SB 530 Sales/Use Taxes; maintenance/operation of public hospitals; authorize imposition of a joint county/municipal sales/use tax**
Sens. **Vincent Fort** (39th); **Horacena Tate** (38th); **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Ron Ramsey** (43rd); **Emanuel Jones** (10th) and **Steve Henson** (41st)
Finance Committee - 02/28/08
- SB 531 Foreclosure; conduct by the current owner/holder of mortgage; require**
Sens. **Bill Hamrick** (30th); **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Curt Thompson** (5th); **J. B. Powell** (23rd) and others
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee - 02/28/08

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- SB 532** **New Home Access Act; enact; require new at-grade residential structures to include certain accessibility features; exceptions**
 Sens. **Nan Orrock** (36th); **Joseph Carter** (13th); **Doug Stoner** (6th); **Robert Brown** (26th); **Curt Thompson** (5th); **Gloria Butler** (55th) and others
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee - 02/28/08
- SB 533** **Seafood; provide for regulations; require certain disclosures; definitions**
 Sens. **Ronnie Chance** (16th); **Lee Hawkins** (49th); **Jeff Chapman** (3rd); **Chip Rogers** (21st); **Cecil Staton** (18th); **Seth Harp** (29th) and others
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee - 02/28/08

House Resolutions

- HR 1023** **Tuskegee Airmen Parkway; dedicate**
 Reps. **Bob Holmes** (61st); **Mable Thomas** (55th); **Georganna Sinkfield** (60th); **Roger Bruce** (64th); **Sharon Beasley-Teague** (65th) and **Tyrone Brooks** (63rd)
Transportation Committee – 02/28/08
- HR 1103** **Joint Study Committee on Teacher Training and Certification; create**
 Reps. **Brooks Coleman** (97th); **Bill Hembree** (67th); **David Casas** (103rd); **Jan Jones** (46th); **Howard Maxwell** (17th) and **Fran Millar** (79th)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/27/08
- HR 1158** **Georgia BIO; commend**
 Reps. **Charlice Byrd** (20th); **Calvin Hill** (21st); **Jimmy Pruett** (144th); **Kevin Levitas** (82nd); **Hardie Davis** (122nd) and **Amos Amerson** (9th)
Economic Development and Tourism Committee – 02/26/08
- HR 1206** **Georgia-North Carolina and Georgia-Tennessee Boundary Line Commission; create**
 Reps. **Harry Geisinger** (48th); **Judy Manning** (32nd); **Jerry Keen** (179th); **John Meadows** (5th); **Jeff Lewis** (15th) and **Steve Tumlin** (38th)
Rules Committee – 02/21/08
- HR 1248** **Burran, Dr. James A.; Dalton State College; retirement; recognize**
 Reps. **Roger Williams** (4th) and **Tom Dickson** (6th)
Read and adopted – 02/12/08

House Bills

- HB 111** **Delayed birth certificates; petitions in probate and superior court; permit**
 Rep. **Austin Scott** (153rd)
Special Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 188** **Jury duty; primary caregiver of certain persons; provide exemption**
 Reps. **Ed Rynders** (152nd); **Judy Manning** (32nd); **Len Walker** (107th); **David Ralston** (7th); **Wendell Willard** (49th) and **Katie Dempsey** (13th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 241** **Opticians; licensure; practical training; specify certain requirements**

Reps. **Jill Chambers** (81st); **Sharon Cooper** (41st); **Karla Drenner** (86th)
and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/26/08

HB 250 **Local boards of education; reports of criminal offenses; revise certain provisions**
Reps. **Howard Maxwell** (17th); **Jan Jones** (46th); **Carl Rogers** (26th);
David Casas (103rd); **Tom Dickinson** (6th) and **Barbara Reece** (11th)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/28/08

HB 257 **Firearms; public gatherings; allow constables to carry weapons**
Reps. **John Yates** (73rd) and **David Knight** (126th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08

HB 373 **Public Safety, Department of; State Patrol; retirement benefits; amend**
Reps. **Ben Bridges** (10th); **Burke Day** (163rd); **Doug Collins** (27th);
Willie Talton (145th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Retirement Committee – 02/26/08

HB 455 **Georgia Prescription Monitoring Program Act; enact**
Rep. **Ron Stephens** (164th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08

HB 579 **Landlord liens; definitions; provisions**
Rep. **Austin Scott** (153rd)
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee – 02/14/08

HB 732 **Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; certain persons; provide membership**
Rep. **Ron Stephens** (164th)
Retirement Committee – 02/26/08

HB 815 **Teachers Retirement System; Regents Retirement Plan; change provisions**
Reps. **Carl Rogers** (26th); **Ben Harbin** (118th); **Bob Smith** (113th);
Bill Hembree (67th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Retirement Committee – 02/26/08

HB 904 **Early care and learning; fingerprint record checks; require certain employees**
Reps. **Sean Jerguson** (22nd); **Calvin Hill** (21st); **Mark Hamilton** (23rd);
Tony Sellier (136th); **Fran Millar** (79th) and **Terry Barnard** (166th)
Education and Youth Committee – 02/26/08

HB 950 **Motor vehicles; assembled; registration and licensing; provide**
Reps. **Alan Powell** (29th); **Tommy Benton** (31st); **Terry England** (108th);
Jeanette Jamieson (28th) and **Clay Cox** (102nd)
Public Safety Committee - 2/19/08

HB 951 **Used Motor Vehicle Dealers' Act; rebuilder; redefine term**
Reps. **Alan Powell** (29th); **Tommy Benton** (31st); **Terry England** (108th);
Jeanette Jamieson (28th) and **Clay Cox** (102nd)
Public Safety Committee - 2/19/08

HB 953 **War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Act; enact**
Reps. **Cecily Hill** (180th); **Ron Stephens** (164th); **Roger Lane** (167th);
Al Williams (165th) and **Jerry Keen** (179th)
Economic Development and Tourism Committee – 02/14/08

- HB 958** **Magistrate court; certain judgments; clarify appeal procedure**
Reps. **Tom Rice** (51st); **Edward Lindsey** (54th); **Robert Mumford** (95th);
Brooks Coleman (97th); **David Casas** (103rd) and **Donna Sheldon** (105th)
Special Judiciary Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 961** **Persons with disabilities; special parking permits and license plates; change certain provisions**
Reps. **Chuck Sims** (169th) and **Jeff Lewis** (15th)
Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 969** **Driver education training requirements; home schooling program; provisions**
Reps. **John Lunsford** (110th); **Barry Loudermilk** (14th);
Martin Scott (2nd); **Jeff Lewis** (15th); **Steve Davis** (109th)
and **James Mills** (25th)
Public Safety Committee - 2/19/08
- HB 972** **Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act; enact**
Reps. **Steve Tumlin** (38th); **Roger Lane** (167th)
and **Edward Lindsey** (54th)
Banking and Financial Institutions Committee - 2/26/08
- HB 981** **Weight of vehicles and loads; concrete haulers; provisions**
Reps. **Mark Butler** (18th); **Tom McCall** (30th); **Tom Rice** (51st)
and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Transportation Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 984** **Children’s transition care centers; definitions; revise and add new**
Reps. **Clay Cox** (102nd); **Amy Carter** (175th); **Sean Jergusson** (22nd);
Donna Sheldon (105th) and **Mike Coan** (101st)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1015** **Special districts divided into noncontiguous areas; certain excess funds; provide additional requirements**
Reps. **Jan Jones** (46th); **Mark Burkhalter** (50th); **Charles Martin** (47th);
Harry Geisinger (48th); **Wendell Willard** (49th) and **Tom Rice** (51st)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee - 2/21/08
- HB 1016** **Commissioner of Natural Resources; blue crabs; manage certain aspects; provide**
Reps. **Bob Lane** (158th); **Jon Burns** (157th); **David Knight** (126th)
and **Sean Jergusson** (22nd)
Natural Resources and the Environment Committee - 2/21/08
- HB 1019** **Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank Act; enact**
Reps. **John Lunsford** (110th); **Vance Smith** (129th); **James Mills** (25th);
Donna Sheldon (105th); **Katie Dempsey** (13th) and **Tom Graves** (12th)
Transportation Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1026** **Transportation, Department of; utility facilities; provisions**
Reps. **Vance Smith** (129th); **Carl Rogers** (26th); **Barry Loudermilk** (14th);
Johnny Floyd (147th); **Tom Graves** (12th) and **Melvin Everson** (106th)
Transportation Committee - 2/21/08
- HB 1041** **Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act; obsolete language; eliminate**
Reps. **Sharon Cooper** (41st); **Joe Wilkinson** (52nd); **Ed Rynders** (152nd);
Wendell Willard (49th); **Gene Maddox** (172nd) and **Doug Collins** (27th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/14/08

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- HB 1043** **Childhood Lead Exposure Control Act; confirmed lead poisoning; revise definition**
Reps. **Sharon Cooper** (41st); **Joe Wilkinson** (52nd); **Mike Jacobs** (80th); **Judy Manning** (32nd); **Mark Butler** (18th) and **Donna Sheldon** (105th)
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1051** **Child abuse; county multi-agency child fatality review committee; change certain provisions**
Reps. **Wendell Willard** (49th); **Edward Lindsey** (54th); **Steve Tumlin** (38th); **Mable Thomas** (55th); **Robin Shipp** (58th) and **Roger Lane** (167th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1055** **Professions and licenses; certain provisions; make revisions**
Reps. **Roger Williams** (4th); **Tom Dickinson** (6th); **Steve Tumlin** (38th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Government Oversight Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1065** **Sales tax; local charter schools; capital outlay projects; authorize**
Reps. **Richard Royal** (171st); **Jan Jones** (46th) and **Brooks Coleman** (97th)
Finance Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1066** **Alcoholic beverages; vaporized forms; prohibit certain conduct**
Reps. **Terry England** (108th); **Len Walker** (107th); **Jay Neal** (1st); **Tommy Benton** (31st) and **James Mills** (25th)
Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee – 02/26/08
- HB 1086** **Court bailiffs; maximum per diem; eliminate**
Reps. **David Ralston** (7th); **Edward Lindsey** (54th); **Roger Lane** (167th); **Tom Knox** (24th); **Mark Hatfield** (177th) and **Matt Ramsey** (72nd)
Special Judiciary Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1088** **Economic Development, Department of; agricultural tourist attractions; provisions**
Reps. **Butch Parrish** (156th); **Ron Stephens** (164th); **Roger Williams** (4th); **Vance Smith** (129th); **Mickey Channell** (116th) and **Earl Ehrhart** (36th)
Economic Development and Tourism Committee – 02/14/08
- HB 1090** **Controlled substances; Schedule I, II, III and IV; change certain provisions**
Reps. **Ron Stephens** (164th); **Earl Carter** (159th); **Bobby Parham** (141st) and **Butch Parrish** (156th)
Judiciary Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1091** **Postsecondary education; attaining residency status; revise requirements**
Reps. **Bill Hembree** (67th); **Clay Cox** (102nd); **Mark Hatfield** (177th); **Ben Harbin** (118th); **Jon Burns** (157th) and **Katie Dempsey** (13th)
Higher Education Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1105** **Hospitals; offer certain vaccinations to inpatients 65 years or older; require**
Reps. **Donna Sheldon** (105th); **Sharon Cooper** (41st); **Ed Rynders** (152nd); **Earl Carter** (159th) and **Mickey Channell** (116th)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1111** **Drivers' licenses; requirements; fees; provisions**
Reps. **Johnny Floyd** (147th); **Tom Rice** (51st); **Willie Talton** (145th); **Alan Powell** (29th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)

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- HB 1113 State purchasing; definitions; provisions**
Reps. **John Heard** (104th); **Ed Rynders** (152nd); **Penny Houston** (170th); **Greg Morris** (155th); **Richard Royal** (171st) and **Gerald Greene** (149th)
Government Oversight Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1123 Transportation, Department of; commissioner; file reports to General Assembly; require**
Reps. **Jay Shaw** (176th); **Vance Smith** (129th); **Donna Sheldon** (105th); **Johnny Floyd** (147th); **James Mills** (25th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Transportation Committee - 2/21/08
- HB 1124 Design-build contracts; standard for award; change**
Reps. **James Mills** (25th); **Vance Smith** (129th); **Donna Sheldon** (105th); **Jay Shaw** (176th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Transportation Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1126 Downtown development authorities; directors; provisions**
Rep. **Billy Horne** (71st)
Economic Development and Tourism Committee – 02/26/08
- HB 1160 Transferable development rights; severance; provide**
Reps. **Len Walker** (107th); **Donna Sheldon** (105th); **Lynn Smith** (70th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Special Judiciary Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1162 Sky Valley, City of; reincorporate and provide new charter**
Rep. **Charles Jenkins** (8th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1164 Warren County Board of Education; member elections; revise districts**
Rep. **Sistie Hudson** (124th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1166 Liberty County; ad valorem tax; property's base year assessment; provide certain restrictions**
Reps. **Al Williams** (165th); **Terry Barnard** (166th) and **Ron Stephens** (164th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1167 Liberty County School District; ad valorem tax; property's base year assessment; provide certain restrictions**
Reps. **Al Williams** (165th); **Terry Barnard** (166th) and **Ron Stephens** (164th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/19/08
- HB 1169 Early care and learning programs; day-care center; revise definition**
Reps. **Alisha Morgan** (39th); **Tom Dickson** (6th); **Kathy Ashe** (56th); **Rob Teilhet** (40th); **Judy Manning** (32nd) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Education and Youth Committee - 02/28/08
- HB 1183 University system; certain provisions; delay repeal**
Reps. **Bob Smith** (113th); **Richard Royal** (171st); **Clay Cox** (102nd); **Jeff Lewis** (15th) and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Higher Education Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1208 Gwinnett County; Redevelopment Powers Law; authorize**
Reps. **Bobby Reese** (98th); **Melvin Everson** (106th); **Mike Coan** (101st); **Clay Cox** (102nd); **Tom Rice** (51st) and **Brooks Coleman** (97th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/21/08

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- HB 1222** **‘Health Share’ Volunteers in Medicine Act; definitions; revise certain provisions**
 Reps. **Mickey Channell** (116th); **Butch Parrish** (156th);
Ron Stephens (164th); **Donna Sheldon** (105th); **Pat Gardner** (57th)
 and **Ron Forster** (3rd)
Health and Human Services Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1250** **Cobb County State Court; judges; change compensation**
 Reps. **Steve Tumlin** (38th); **Rob Teilhet** (40th); **Don Parsons** (42nd);
Ed Setzler (35th); **Terry Johnson** (37th) and **Earl Ehrhart** (36th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/26/08
- HB 1255** **Monroe Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority Act; enact**
 Reps. **Jeff May** (111th) and **Len Walker** (107th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/26/08
- HB 1279** **Emanuel County; Board of Education; members; change compensation**
 Reps. **Butch Parrish** (156th); **Jimmy Lord** (142nd) and **Greg Morris** (155th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/27/08
- HB 1282** **Glynn County; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption**
 Reps. **Jerry Keen** (179th); **Cecily Hill** (180th) and **Roger Lane** (167th)
State and Local Government Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1285** **Glynn County School District; ad valorem tax; provide homestead exemption**
 Reps. **Jerry Keen** (179th); **Cecily Hill** (180th) and **Roger Lane** (167th)
State and Local Government Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1304** **Kennesaw, City of; corporate city limits; change provisions**
 Reps. **Ed Setzler** (35th); **Steve Tumlin** (38th); **Sharon Cooper** (41st);
Rob Teilhet (40th); **Don Wix** (33rd) and **Judy Manning** (32nd)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1308** **Cobb County State Court; clerk and chief deputy clerk; change compensation**
 Reps. **Earl Ehrhart** (36th); **Steve Tumlin** (38th); **Ed Setzler** (35th);
Bobby Franklin (43rd); **Don Wix** (33rd) and **Rob Teilhet** (40th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1309** **Brantley County; board of commissioners; chairperson; change salary**
 Rep. **Mark Williams** (178th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1312** **Bleckley County School Building Authority; create**
 Rep. **Jimmy Pruett** (144th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/28/08
- HB 1313** **Pulaski County School Building Authority; create**
 Reps. **Jimmy Pruett** (144th) and **Johnny Floyd** (147th)
State and Local Governmental Operations Committee – 02/28/08

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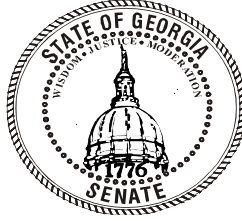
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John T. Smith

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